

Series I
Correspondence,
1932-1973

Box 8, Folder 20

July 13, 1957 -
September 15, 1957

0513

It's a
BIG STORY



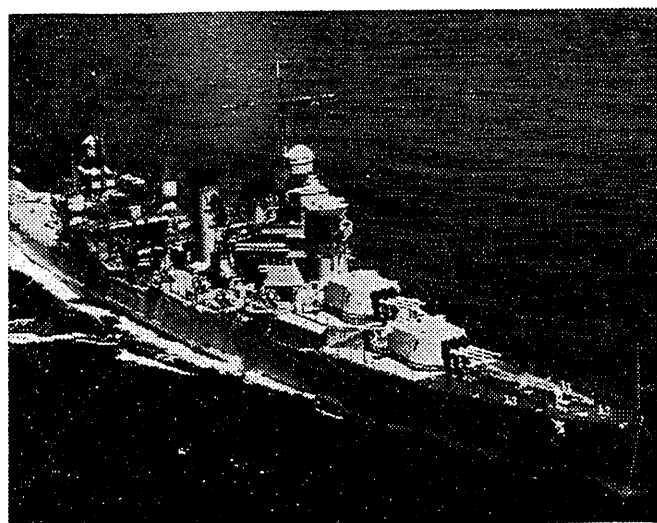
and
IT'S ABOUT YOU!

0514

*It's always great
to read about your
friends and I was
especially happy
to read about you.*

Amelia F. Furman

0515



GRAND MARSHAL of the Aquatennial parade July 20 will be Rear Adm. R. W. Bates of the naval war college, Newport, R. I. Bates served during World War II as commanding officer of the cruiser Minneapolis (right). The ship has a battle record of 15 planes and four ships. She was put out of action during the Guadalcanal

engagement but was repaired and went into action again. Bates now is preparing a critical analysis of the major naval battles of the war. He was awarded the legion of merit for "exceptionally meritorious conduct." He has received two additional gold star awards and the na cross.



COMMANDING OFFICER
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

13 July 1957

Admiral R. W. Bates
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Received your letter of 9 July 1957, concerning your forthcoming visit to the Twin Cities area.

Accommodations have been made for you at the ^{LEAF} Leamington Hotel. It is planned to have transportation for you to the Leamington, as soon as you arrive. You can expect to be greeted by the Aquatennial royal party and an Honor Guard.

The Navy League has arranged a reception for you at the Minikahda Country Club to begin at 1630 and last till 1915. You will then attend the kick-off party at the Calhoun Beach Hotel. During this party you may be called upon to say only a very few words.

The Legislator's Day luncheon is held in conjunction with the Navy League and all legislators and their wives are invited. It is planned to have you present two flags to Mayor P. K. Peterson who will in turn present them to Mr. Les Meyers, the President of the Historical Society. A short talk of not more than fifteen (15) minutes duration is expected.

Your plan to wear large medals, sword, and white gloves for the parade would be most appropriate. However, since the dinner is not formal, service dress white with ribbons would be more appropriate than miniature medals.

I plan to fly to Quonset Point myself and will be ready for a 0800 departure on Friday, 19 July 1957.

During your stay in Minneapolis I plan to assign one of my officers as your ~~adler~~ ^{adler}. He has had no experience along this line but I'm sure he will be able to assist you in keeping most of the details and schedules straight.

Sincerely yours,

F. F. GILL
Captain, U. S. Navy

JAZ:te

0517



NAVY LEAGUE of the UNITED STATES

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ASSISTANT TREASURER
ARTHUR S. CARPENDER

39th Floor
40 Wall street
New York 5, N. Y.
15 July 1957

Admiral Richard Bates, USN
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

My dear Rafe:

I was indeed pleased to learn during our conversation on the phone to-day that you have been invited to be the Grand Marshal of the Aquatennial Parade in Minneapolis.

I am very proud of the fact that you have also been invited by the Minneapolis Council of the Navy League to be their Guest at the party prior to the Banquet.

Knowing of the great pride you have always had in the fact that you had in your possession the last flags of the world-famous "MINNIE" and your love for that splendid ship -- a love which all of us of the Navy share with you -- I can well understand your reluctance to part with the flags, but knowing you as I do, not only as a fellow naval officer but also as a true friend, I can also understand your wish that these flags be presented by you to the City of Minneapolis.

The Minneapolis and St. Paul Councils of the Navy League are doing a good job in keeping the people of Minnesota informed regarding present and future Navy activities and I would appreciate very much if you would convey to our members there my kind regards and very best wishes. I know you will enjoy your visit to Minneapolis.

Sincerely,

John J. Bergen
John J. Bergen

JJB.w

0518

July 26, 1957

Dear Mary Lou,

I suppose by the time that you receive this letter you will have been retired as the reigning Queen, and will be simply your lovely self again.

This note to to tell you how much I enjoyed meeting you and how happy I was to hear of what a brilliant success you were as the Queen. You were a success not only to the City of Minneapolis and evidently to the United States during your European visit, but also to yourself.

You are the first reigning Queen that I have ever met and therefore I shall always treasure my visit with you.

With best wishes for your future happiness, I am,

Very sincerely,

R. W. BATES
Rear Admiral, USN (Ret).

Miss Mary Lou Erickson
c/o Minneapolis Aquatennial Ass'n
116 Times Building
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

0519



COMMANDING OFFICER
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

28 July 1957

Dear Admiral Bates:

Received your letter of 24 July 1957 concerning media coverage of your activities during your recent visit to the Twin Cities.

Enclosed are photographs that will be released to service publications and I feel certain they will be included in future issues. The news clippings are the only ones we were able to obtain. Since we have no clipping service, coverage by publications outside the Twin Cities area is not available.

Television gave wide coverage of your activities and since this medium scoops the newspapers, the amount of space given to any one celebrity or event is restricted to a short paragraph.

WCCO-TV covered your activities at 1100 during the parade; at 2200 on their Saturday Night News; and at 1245, 28 July, on the World of Aviation Program.

Coverage by KSTP-TV included the 1800 and 2200 news programs on Friday, 19 July, relative to the presentation of the flags to Mayor Peterson; the 1800 and 2200 news programs on Saturday, 20 July, relative to your role as Parade Grand Marshall; and on the live telecast during the parade between 1000 and 1200. In addition, KSTP Radio broadcast the 'hot line' car interview at 1645 on Saturday, 20 July.

Arrangements have been made with these television companies for film prints which will be forwarded upon receipt. Due to the nature of their schedules, requests for film prints from WTCN-TV and KMGH-TV could not be fulfilled at this time. However, they will be contacted as soon as practicable and necessary arrangements will be made.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the additional information you desire should be in the mails by Thursday, 1 August.

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We certainly enjoyed having you as a guest in the Twin Cities and look forward to a possible future visit.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. F. Gill".

F. F. GILL
Captain, U. S. Navy

Rear Admiral R. W. BATES, USN (Ret)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

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LER:mk
30 July 1957

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on COMO R W B, TEE ltr to CNO dtd 25 Jul 57

From: President, Naval War College
To: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: Official visit to Minneapolis; report of

1. Forwarded.

E. L. HANEY
By direction

0522

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, R. I.

25 July 1957

From: Commodore Richard W. Bates, USN, 009027/1103
To: Chief of Naval Operations
Via: President, U.S. Naval War College

Subj: Official visit to Minneapolis, Minn.; report of

Encl: (1) Photograph of Minneapolis Aquatennial Association's
Honorary Commodore Award
(2) Photograph of Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce's Town
Topper Medal
(3) Newspaper clippings from Minneapolis Star and Minneapolis
Tribune

1. During the period 19-21 July, I visited the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the guest of the Minneapolis Aquatennial Association. I had been invited by the Association to be the Grand Marshal of the Grande Parade, and I seized the opportunity to present to the City five battle flags which had been flown by the USS MINNEAPOLIS (CA-36) during certain operations in the Pacific during 1943-1944.

2. Upon my arrival in Minneapolis, I was met first by an honor guard and band; by the President of the Aquatennial Association and his wife; by a number of other top Aquatennial people; by the Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Station; by the gentlemen of the press; and finally by the "Queen". I was interrogated by the press, and I think that I gave fair answers. I was put up at the Leamington Hotel where I had a wonderful air-cooled room at the expense of the Aquatennial Association.

3. During my entire stay I had a private car. My first car was a Plymouth--an open Plymouth--with a large sign on the side reading:

"Grand Marshall
Rear Admiral R. W. Bates
Commander-Cruiser MINNEAPOLIS"

On leaving the airport I was assigned an aide, a lieutenant commander, from the Naval Air Station.

4. I was a guest as follows:

a. Navy League: I was a guest of the Navy League at a cocktail reception at the Minikahda Country Club located on Lake Minnetonka. I estimate that about sixty members were present. The affair was delightful, the club located in a position such that it has a magnificent view. I read to the group a letter from Rear Admiral John

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NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, R. I.

J. Bergen, USNR, President of the Navy League, which, by the way, was a nice letter, and one much appreciated by the Minneapolis Council. I also talked to the group for about fifteen minutes on naval matters, after which I was highly complimented by the President of the Minneapolis Council on my ease of delivery and the substance of my talk.

b. After leaving the Navy League party I went to the Calhoun Beach Hotel where I was a dais guest of the Aquatennial Association at the Kick-Off Party. At this party top members of the Association were introduced. The Queens and Queen candidates and matters of that nature were the order of the evening. At the dinner I was introduced in a very nice fashion, and I was given a plaque making me an Honorary Commodore of the Aquatennial Association of Minneapolis. This is supposed to be quite an honor!

c. The next morning, 20 July, I was the Grand Marshal of the Grande Parade, where I rode in an open Lincoln with the sign referred to above on it. The parade was quite long. There were roughly 170 floats or units, some of which were quite extensive, i.e., those representing the Shriners. I thought the parade was an excellent one and I enjoyed the honor of heading it.

The parade, which started a little after 0900 was over at about noon. I did not head the parade throughout the whole time because, after a while, I left the parade and joined the reviewing stand.

d. On completion of the parade I went to the Leamington Hotel where I was a dais guest at the Legislators' Luncheon. Here, a considerable amount of time was spent in introducing aldermen and members of the State Legislature. After this was over, I was introduced, and decorated with the Chamber of Commerce's highest order, the Town Topper Medal. I have been informed that this is a higher decoration than the Honorary Commodore Plaque. However, this is largely hearsay.

I presented five battle flags at this luncheon to the Mayor, to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, and to the aldermen. I talked for about fifteen minutes to an audience of about 400. My talk was very well received and the President of the Aquatennial Association said that they had had Arthur Godfrey and others there, but that mine outdid them all.

e. After this I went on a tour of the city for the next couple of hours and then attended one of the Aquatennial Association features, i.e., the Minneapolis Symphony in "Music Under the Stars". It was excellent.

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, R. I.

5. I enjoyed my visit to Minneapolis. I think that my visit succeeded in improving relations between the city and the navy, which, apparently had been somewhat strained. In fact, Captain F. P. Gill, the Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Station, said to me upon my departure, "Whether you know it or not, you have been very successful here, and you have eased my problems greatly".

6. I am enclosing herewith photographs of the two awards given me and some newspaper clipping which I found in the newspapers Sunday morning.

7. I believe that Minneapolis is a coming city with excellent leadership, and great vision. I, therefore, feel that if other flag officers are invited to attend the Aquatennial in the manner in which I was invited, they should accept.

R. W. BATES

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DISTRICT COURT
PAUL S. CARROLL, JUDGE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

August 1, 1957

Admiral R. W. Bates
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

Thank you for your very fine letter of July 25th. It is quite obvious that we owe you the thanks and not the other way around for you did this community a very great favor when you came here for the Aquatennial.

A day or two after you left Minneapolis Mrs. Carroll and I went up to the North Shore and stayed a few days; that's how you happened to receive the card which I sent you last Friday. That is the most beautiful part of this state and the climate is just about tops. Hay fever sufferers have little trouble, and usually the temperature is on the cool side.

I have talked to almost everyone connected with your visit here, including Mr. Myers, Mr. Kelly, and Mr. Erickson of the Aquatennial, and several of our public officials including the Mayor. All were greatly pleased, not only with your speech but with everything you did while you were here. We are claiming you on the credit side of the Navy League. As you know, Mrs. Carroll was greatly impressed with you and feels, with me, a warm friendship for you.

The Aquatennial proceeded in regular fashion to its conclusion. Colonel Marion Karl of the United States Marines was here for the Wednesday Parade and the Thursday noon luncheon. As far as I know, he was well received by everybody but, as I say, I was not here when he was here. I do not believe that he was called upon to speak. At any rate, the Navy and the Marines, we feel, did themselves proud.

We were at the Slocum's last night for dinner and they regretted that they were not home at the particular time that we visited there.

0526

DISTRICT COURT
PAUL S. CARROLL, JUDGE

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

- 2 -

Last Friday the flags were formally presented to Mr. Myers, as president of the Hennepin County Historical Society, and the Navy League. This ceremony took place in the council rooms here in the court house, so you may feel assured that the flags will be well taken care of and well displayed.

I am enclosing a couple of rather bulky clippings. One you may have seen; it refers to the talk that you gave at the luncheon and it has your picture. The other contains an article by our leading columnist, Cedric Adams. It has to do with the handling of the Navy queens and also the lack of care and preparation for a program with movie actors, etc., who were here. We all think it's a pretty sensible article and you and I know that it applies to the way the queens were handled at the luncheon.

I also enclose a current picture of Minnehaha Falls, about which we spoke, but which you did not get an opportunity to see while you were here. It is an historical landmark for those of us who live in Minnesota.

Well, I think I'll close this letter. I again want you to know how much we appreciate your coming here. Thank you for giving my regards to Mrs. Kane. Also give my regards to any others who might happen to remember me.

Very sincerely yours,

Paul S. Carroll

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FEDERAL 9-8521

August 2, 1957

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates
Commandant
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

We were most honored to have had you with us in the City of Minneapolis during the recent Aquatennial celebration.

The Town Topper Medal, which was presented to you, is reserved for those individuals who have achieved outstanding success in their profession. As Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Minneapolis during World War II, you and the members of your command distinguished yourselves repeatedly and therefore were responsible for bringing additional fame and glory to the City of Minneapolis.

Your splendid cooperation in presenting the colors of the Cruiser Minneapolis to the City was particularly appreciated. I am enclosing as an adjunct to the Medal, our Certificate for Outstanding Public Service. It is our hope that you will be able to visit Minneapolis again.

Sincerely yours,



FELTON COLWELL
President

FC:hb
Enclosure

0528



City of Minneapolis

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

127 CITY HALL - FEDERAL 2-1116

P. KENNETH PETERSON
MAYOR

August 1, 1957

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

It was good of you to write and express your kind sentiments regarding Minneapolis and the Aquatennial. Believe me, we were pleased and honored to have you with us.

I thought you would be interested in knowing that the flag presentation was more than adequately taken care of. They were accepted officially by the City Council on the occasion of my making an inaugural presentation, and they were then delivered over to the Hennepin County Historical Society for preservation and display. You will be interested to know that a special room is being created for it.

Mrs. Peterson joins me in extending again to you our very best regards. It may be that in our travels we may be near Newport when we would be very pleased to pay you a social call.

Again my thanks to you for your participation in our annual summer festival.

Yours sincerely,

P. Kenneth Peterson
P. Kenneth Peterson
MAYOR

PK:mi

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3-03

aquatennial

116 TIMES BLDG. • MARQUETTE AT 4TH • MINNEAPOLIS 1, MINN. • FE. 2-7412

IN BUSINESS PROMOTING MINNEAPOLIS

August 2nd, 1957

Rear Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:


Thank you, sir, for your very wonderful letter of July 24th. I thoroughly enjoyed your letter as did Mrs. Field and the other members of our immediate Aquatennial family.

It is always nice to know people appreciate your efforts and so we're happy that you are pleased by receiving the Honorary Commodore Plaque. But even more important, let me say how all of us were so proud to have you as our guest and as the Grand Marshal of our important Day Parade. It was a distinct honor and pleasure to get to know you.

I thank you for being such a very grand visitor to our fair city and you can have the knowledge that this Aquatennial was the most successful in Minneapolis' history. I am sure that your part was an important one in setting the theme for the type of optimistic enthusiasm you need to have any successful program.

Again, sir, on behalf of the entire Aquatennial and on behalf of my position as Commodore, thanks for a job well done; thanks for the splendid hospitality that you showed us by being such a very gracious guest.

Yours sincerely,


Wayne Field, Commodore
1957 Minneapolis Aquatennial

JULY 19 TO 28 • 1957



0530



COMMANDING OFFICER
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

2 August 1957

Admiral R. W. Bates, USN (Ret)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Admiral Bates:

As I stated in my letter of 28 July, I contacted both WTCN-TV and KMGM-TV to determine whether copies of their film coverage of the Aquatennial could be made available. I discovered that neither of them televised the parade; consequently no film is available.

KSTP-TV furnished the enclosed film strip of your activities. Upon reviewing the film taken by WCCO-TV, their coverage was essentially the same as that of KSTP. Therefore, I did not request a duplicate be made.

With regard to the persons to whom you wish to write, the names submitted by Lieutenant Commander Praetsch and Graham Whitney are as follows:

Mr. George Martens
President, City Council
City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota

P. Kenneth Peterson
Mayor, City of Minneapolis
City Hall
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. Felton Colwell
President, Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce
Lutheran Brotherhood Bldg.
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota
(Legislators' Evening Luncheon)

Mr. Leslie Meyer
President, Benson Optical Company
Medical Arts Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota
President, Minneapolis Chapter of Navy League

In the event you desire further information, I will do my utmost to supply whatever is available.

Sincerely yours,

F.F. Gill

F.F. GILL
Captain, U.S. Navy

JAZ/rlw

0531

UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE

9 August 1957

ANNAPOLIS, MD.

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN (Ret.)
Naval War College
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Commodore Bates:

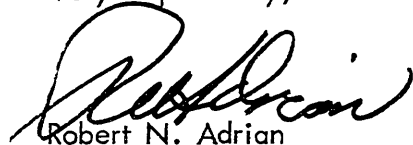
We have recently received a copy of Operation Sea Lion by Peter Fleming which we should be very pleased to have you review for the U. S. Naval Institute Proceedings.

Our reviews, prefaced by a biographical sentence or two about the reviewer, run from 200 to 300 words in length. The Book Review Section of any issue of the Proceedings will show you the form to follow and the biographical data desired.

The honorarium for this review would be twenty-five dollars. There is no hard and fast deadline, but we should like to have the review in a month's time.

We are forwarding the book herewith. Since we like to keep such books in the Naval Institute Library, we shall appreciate its return along with the review.

Very respectfully,



Robert N. Adrian
Commander, U. S. Navy
Secretary-Treasurer

P.S.

Dear Rafe:

It was my suggestion that we ask you to review this book because I thought you people at the War College would have more complete information on this operation than anyone else. As you know, we are trying to get authoritative reviews in the Proceedings. I hope that you can find time to

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Page 2

Commodore Bates

9 August 1957

do it personally. If not, can you suggest someone else of equivalent knowledge and background?

With best regards,



Roy de S. Horn
Commander, USN (Ret.)
Managing Editor

0533

CAPTAIN E. E. HAZLETT, JR., U.S.N. (RET.)
FOREST HILLS, CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

20 August, 1957.

Dear Papa,

I am only 8 months late in replying to your good letter of last December, but I have an involved excuse. It is only recently that I have written anyone or anything - except to sign checks.

I went to Bethesda, on advice of my local doc, in early January and was there for about 3 months, then had to go back again in June for a couple of weeks. My B.P. was cutting apers, but is now well under control. Unfortunately, while hospitalized, I had a recurrence after 5 years of my histamine headaches, otherwise known as "Doctor's Horrors". They never did cure me this time, but I am better. At least enough better to write, if somewhat illegibly. For months the constant compression in my head affected my ears and threw me so off balance I could scarcely stagger about, much less write. It's a strange and rare disease, and I wouldn't wish it on my dog.

However, I still enjoy life immensely, even tho' social activities have been superseded by grandchildren. They are a great institution!

0534

Buddie and Dick have two — and we just spent a 2-week holiday with the young Scotts (all 4 of them) at the beach. Dick is now an engineer with Curtis-Wright, living in Terry.

And Alice has just presented us with our 5th grandchild (Scrappy's 12th — these Messing boys are prolific!). This made our 2nd male grandchild, and is named Edward Haylett Messing, which naturally elates us. Jones was in the midst of a move from Atlanta to Greensboro, N.C., when it was due — so, ^{Alice} came home to have it. She and all these children are now with us, and Jones gets home almost every night. It's a ^{bit} ~~big~~ confusing and crowded, but fun! But a confirmed old celibate probably isn't interested in domestic matters.

I am glad you like my ex next door neighbor. He's a fine chap and I'm sure he's been a credit to the College as he was to the Navy. Having been so isolated recently I've lost track of him — is his contract up thus being renewed, or is he coming home to U. N. C. P. I don't know your Dr. Manchester from Duke. Incidentally, I hear the Ralph Park is coming back to Duke to act as liaison between the University and the Govt.. Will he delight to see Audrey & Ralph again.

0535

(2)

You are fortunate to continue in good health and still be able to contribute something of value to our Navy and Country. From all I hear you are doing a great job. We all hope your heart holds out long enough to complete your work. In your letter I particularly liked your paragraph about "hardware" as "strategy". It shows you are yourself using the logical processes you advocate.

Thanks from one Hanky-Dunk for the fine work you did on the Boat Committee. Ted and Rip seem to have garnered the laurels, but I know it wasn't a 2-man job. Personally I think it a most appropriate memorial from a slightly off-beat Class. A Class of individualists if there ever was one! I know that Ray H. and Tom P. were against it, and probably others. But we didn't know about the Stadium proposition when we decided on it. And besides, even a substantial gift to the Stadium would be lost in that vast undertaking. I doubt if there are many of our classmates who can't contribute as much (or more) to the Stadium as they did for the Boat. I already have.

Keep up that jistick of going to the Army-Navy Game. How I wish I could join you and the rest of the regulars there! I, too, fully agree that last year was no year to go to the Cotton Bowl. We were damned

0536

lucky to come out ^{of} that place with a tie.

As colleagues at Bethesda in the winter I had Tom Peyton and Dutch Kriner. Tom underwent two operations - one very serious - but he writes me he is coming along fine now. Dutch was in even worse shape - he had dropped from 185 lbs to 117! I could never find out just what was the matter - he was in the gastro-intestinal ward - later transferred to the mental ward. But when I saw him he seemed to be chipping well.

My head has clogged up on me while writing this, and my handwriting is deteriorating by the minute. I hope you can read my new scrawl. If so, you're a better man than I am.

Oh, Alice and the babies, join me in the best of everything to the old Kinnearns.

Dwight.

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

22 August 1957

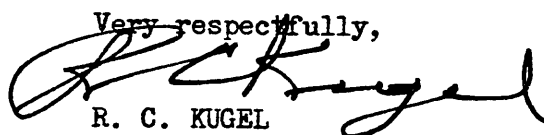
From: Air Force Advisor
To: Head, World War II Battle Evaluation Group
Subject: Leave-taking

Today I complete my last assignment with the Naval War College. I could not take my leave without stating that my three years here have been most pleasant and, at the same time, personally beneficial.

Mrs. Kugel has had to precede me to our next station. However, she was just as reluctant to leave as I am. We have made many friends in the Navy here whom we hope and plan to see again in the future.

Would you please convey this reluctant leave-taking to the military and civilian personnel of your organization?

Very respectfully,



R. C. KUGEL

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

15 September 1957

Dear Admiral Bates:

Please accept my somewhat belated thanks for the wonderful evening which you so spontaneously arranged for Colonel Schulz and myself. The Clambake Club has certainly converted me to their kind of clam chowder. It was a most wonderful meal and entertaining evening.

I am very sorry that I was unable to show up at the Reading Room the other night, but I am sure you will understand that my time very often is not my own.

With warm regard and greatest respect,
I am

Sincerely,



E. P. AURAND
Captain, U. S. Navy

Commo. Richard W. Bates, USN
U. S. Naval War College
Newport, R. I.

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